

HAIG BKST
KH

25X1

ITEMPO 8097570 0600943Z FRP

15/44/

CONFIDENTIAL

FRP: , , , , 5, , ,

STATE

25X1

82 8097570 SCO

PAGE 001

NC 8097570

TOR: 280912Z FEB 82

00 RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
UTS5116
00 RUEHC
DE RUQMDI #1300 0590811
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 280802Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISHU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7803
INFO RUTABA/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 6445
RUQMDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 524
RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1412
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 3594
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1641
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 1882
RUSNNOA/CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISHU 1300

FEB 23 5 10 PM '82

E.O. 12065: GDS 2/28/82 (PETTERSON, DONALD K.) OR-M
TAGS: OVIP, PEPR, SO, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SIAD'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

REF MOGADISHU 924

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. THE TROUBLE IN HARGEISA THIS PAST WEEK VIVIDLY
ILLUSTRATES THAT DESPITE THE EVIDENTLY FIRM GRIP
MOHAMED SIAD BARRE RETAINS ON POWER, THERE REMAINS AN
UNDERLYING PERVASIVE POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN
SOMALIA. THROUGH A COMBINATION OF FORCE AND VARIOUS

CONFIDENTIAL

State Dept. review completed.

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 8097570 SCO

PAGE 002
TOR: 280912Z FEB 82

NC 8097570

FORMS OF BRIBERY AND CONCILIATION, SIAD HAS MANAGED, AND MAY WELL CONTINUE TO MANAGE, TO KEEP THE LID ON. HOWEVER, HIS RELUCTANCE TO PERMIT GREATER AND BROADER LIBERALIZATION OF THE ECONOMY AND TO MAKE OTHER FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN HIS DOMESTIC POLICIES, ALONG WITH HIS INCREASING RELIANCE ON HIS RELATIVES, TRIBESMEN AND SYCOPHANTS, IS NOT A GOOD FORMULA FOR STABILITY.

3. IN RECENT AND NOT-SO-RECENT ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION IN THIS COUNTRY (E.G., REFTEL) WE HAVE NOTED THE UNPOPULARITY OF THE SIAD REGIME AND POINTED OUT THE REASONS FOR THIS. ONE OF THOSE IS THAT MANY SOMALIS ARE TIRED TO DICTATORSHIP AND, ALTHOUGH OPPOSED TO A RETURN TO THE ANARCHIC MULTIPARTY POLICIES OF THE PRE-"REVOLUTION" DAYS, THEY DESIRE A FORM OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY. SIAD HIMSELF IS NOT IN FAVOR OF THIS, DESPITE WHAT HE MAY SAY. HOWEVER, MANY LEADING SOMALIS WITH WHOM I HAVE TALKED BELIEVE THIS, WITH CONTINUED AUTHORITARIAN RULE AND THE REPRESSION THAT GOES WITH IT, THERE CAN BE NO REAL STABILITY IN SOMALIA.

4. IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO PROMOTE EVOLUTIONARY LIBERALIZATION HERE AND TO AVOID AN EXPLOSION THAT COULD HAVE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR US. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD INITIATE A DIALOGUE WITH SIAD ON THIS SUBJECT, AND THAT THE BEST WAY TO DO IT WOULD BE DURING THE HIGH-LEVEL TALKS IN WASHINGTON. EITHER PRESIDENT REAGAN OR SECRETARY HAIG, OR BOTH OF THEM COULD EXPRESS TO SIAD THE IDEA THAT ALTHOUGH THE APPROPRIATE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT VARIES FROM SOCIETY TO SOCIETY, IT IS OUR DEEPLY HELD BELIEF THAT THERE CAN BE NO LONG-LASTING STABILITY IN ANY COUNTRY UNLESS THE PEOPLE FEEL THEY HAVE SOME VOICE IN THE GOVERNING PROCESS.

5. HOWEVER WE STATE THIS, IF WE CONVEY TO HIM, IN A NON-THREATENING WAY AND IN THE CONTEXT THAT OUR FRIENDSHIP FOR SOMALIA IS FIRM, THAT WE SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC CHANGES IN SOMALIA, IT COULD

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 8097570 SCO

PAGE 003

NC 8097570

TOR: 280912Z FEB 82

HAVE SOME POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE EFFORTS OF THOSE
WHO ARE WORKING FOR LIBERALIZATION, AND PERHAPS
REDUCE SOME OF THE POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN
SOMALIA. PETTERSON

END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL